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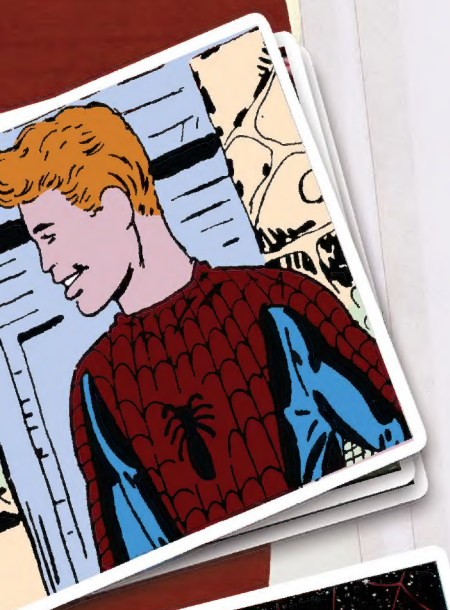

CLASSIFIED

PROJECT REBIRTH 2.0

Name: Eugene "Flash" Thompson

Rank: Corporal U.S. Army

SSN: 987-08-1962

Notes: High school bully turned war hero, Flash Thompson has always been brave. As a teenager he even impersonated Spider-Man to try and save the hero's reputation. He lost his legs in the Middle East while saving his commanding officer. He said his heroism was "what Spider-Man would have done."

CLASSIFIED

Name: Venom

Organism: Symbiote

Origin: Extraterrestrial

Known Hosts: Spider-Man, Eddie Brock, Mac Gargan and others

Notes: The Venom Symbiote is a dangerous alien parasite that bonds with a human host, giving them extraordinary abilities including spider-like-powers and some shape-shifting abilities. It is known to cause madness in its hosts, as well as a taste for blood.

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FLASHPOINT

Madripoor.

FUTURA PLAZA, THIRD TALLEST BUILDING IN THE PACIFIC RIM. STATUS: IMPENETRABLE...

...BY CONVENTIONAL MEANS.

FORTUNATELY...

POK

THWIP

IP

IP

IP

...I'M AN UNCONVENTIONAL GUY.

KATE? YOU COPY?

I WEBBED UP ALL FOUR CAMERAS...

...WITH MACKENZIE'S MAGNETIC FLUID.

THEY'LL BE SHOWING NOTHING BUT STATIC.

I'M IN. PHASE ONE COMPLETE. I'D SAY THAT PUTS US AT THE FORTY...

...WITH A NEW FIRST DOWN AND PLENTY A' TIME LEFT ON THE--

STOP!

STOP WHAT?

KATE, HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU?

THE FOOTBALL METAPHORS. THE FATE OF THE FREE WORLD'S AT STAKE.

THIS ISN'T A GAME, CORPORAL THOMPSON.

CALL ME FLASH.

NO. WHEN YOU'RE IN THE SUIT, YOU'RE VENOM.

THIS AGAIN? CAN'T I BE THE NEW SPIDER-MA--

VENOM. AND WHEN YOU'RE UNDERCOVER, IT'S--

HEISMAN. GENE HEISMAN.

Dan Slott
writer

Humberto Ramos
pencils

Carlos Cuevas
inks

Edgar Delgado
colors

VC's Joe Caramagna
letters

Ellie Pyle
assistant editor

Stephen Wacker
point two

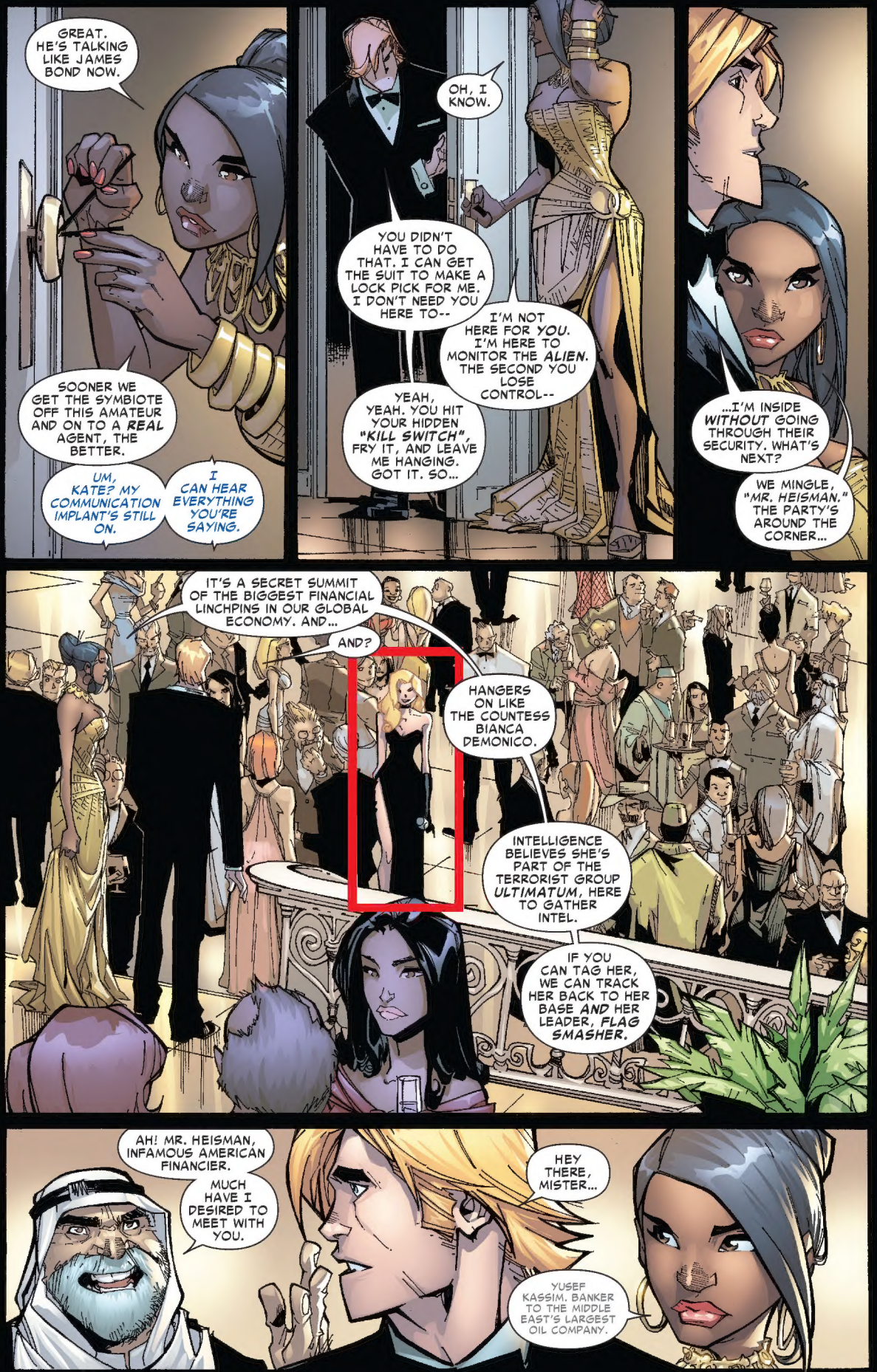
Axel Alonso
editor in chief

Joe Quesada
chief creative officer

Dan Buckley
publisher

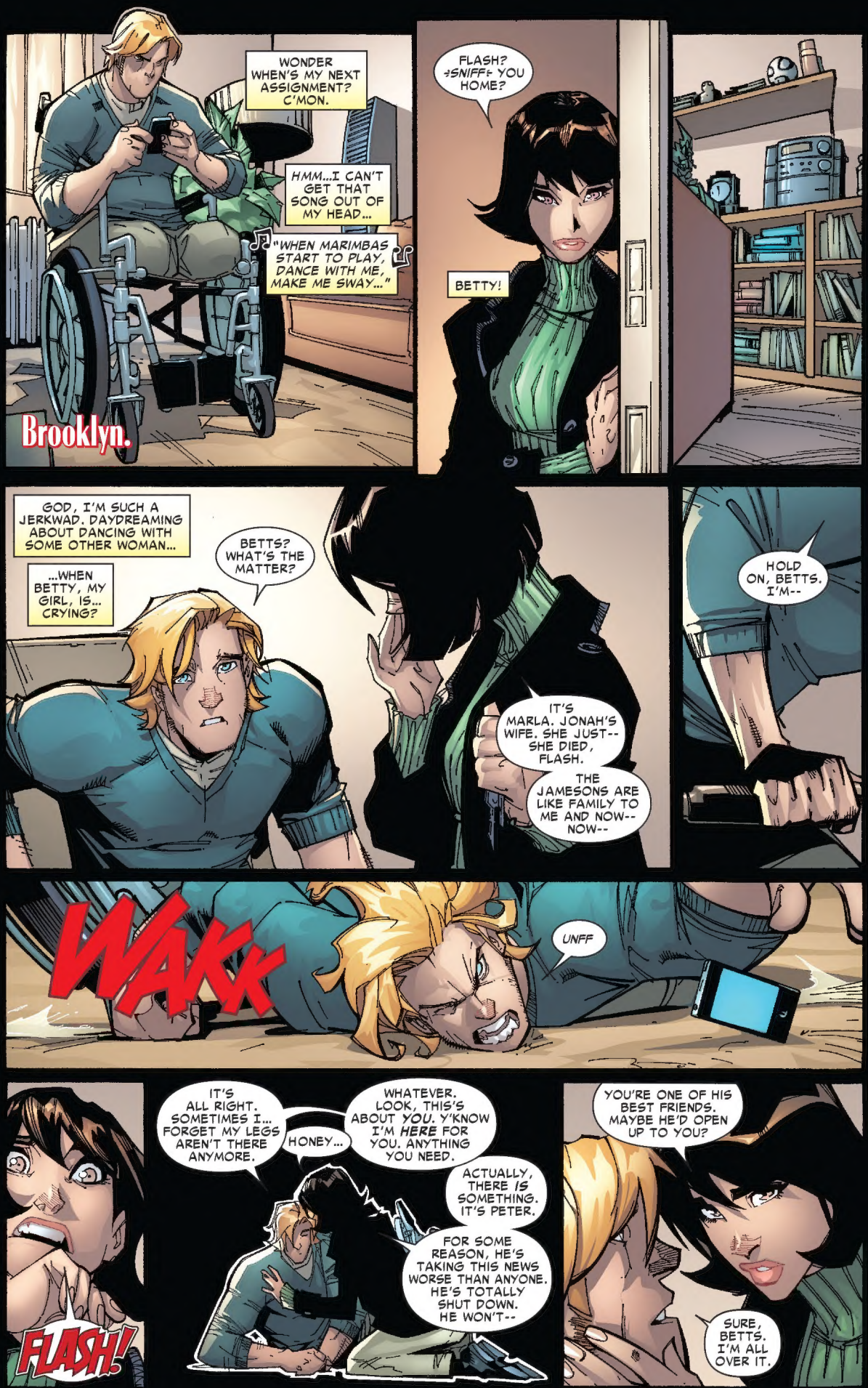
Alan Fine
executive producer

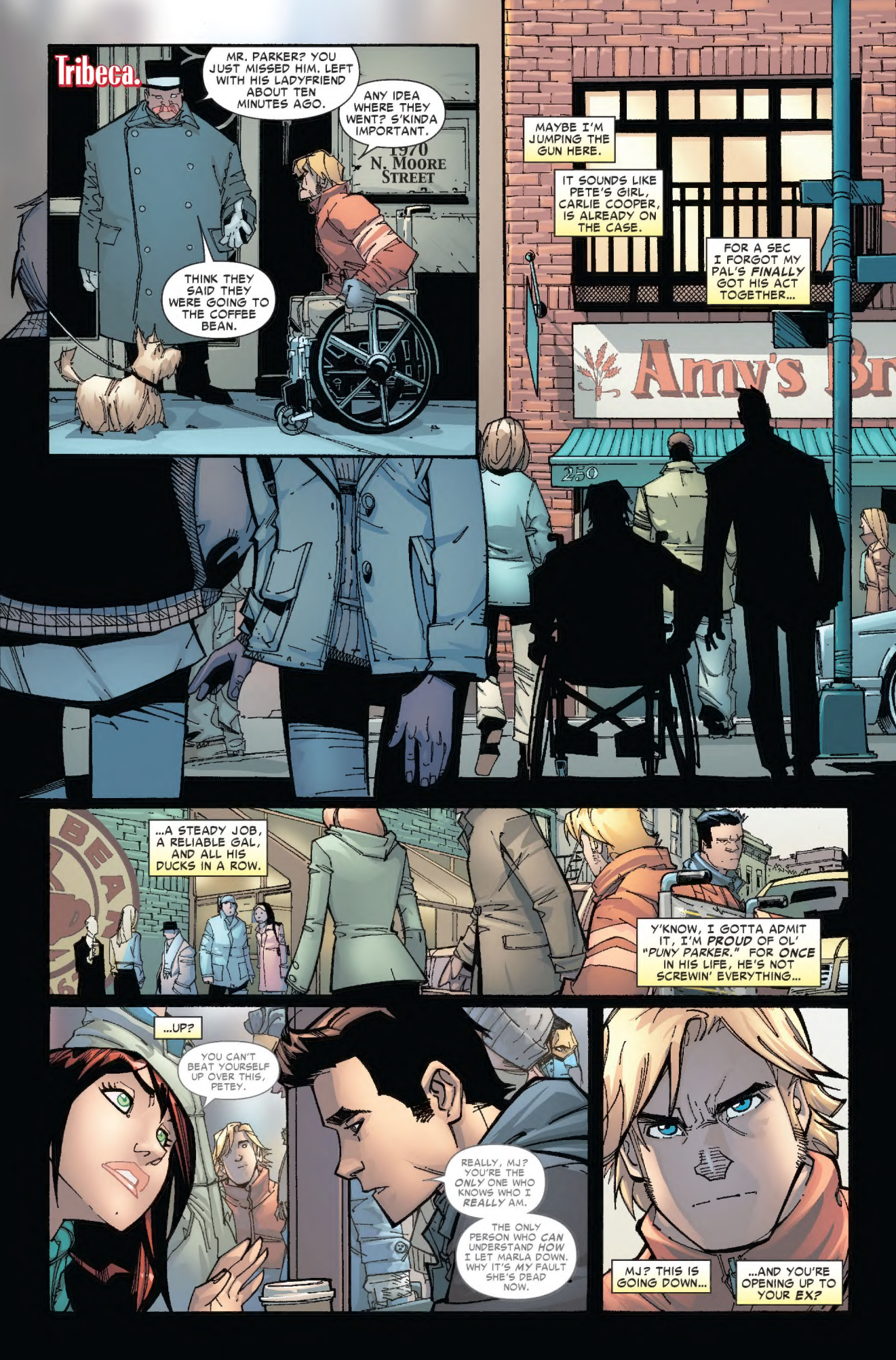
special thanks to
Rick Remender

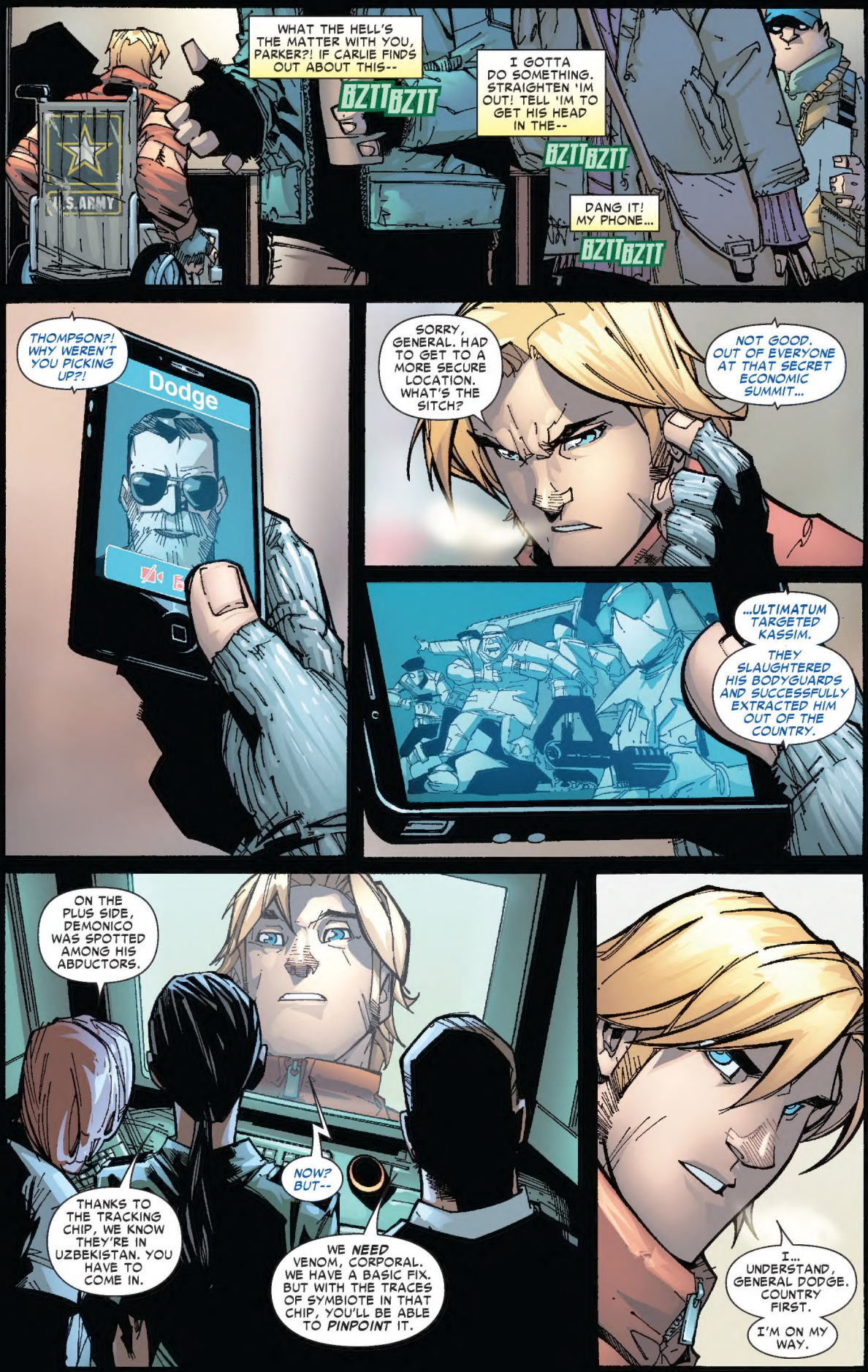

GREAT. HE'S TALKING LIKE JAMES BOND NOW.
SOONER WE GET THE SYMBIOTE OFF THIS AMATEUR AND ON TO A REAL AGENT, THE BETTER.
UM, KATE? MY COMMUNICATION IMPLANT'S STILL ON.
I CAN HEAR EVERYTHING YOU'RE SAYING.
OH, I KNOW.
YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO DO THAT. I CAN GET THE SUIT TO MAKE A LOCK PICK FOR ME. I DON'T NEED YOU HERE TO--
I'M NOT HERE FOR YOU. I'M HERE TO MONITOR THE ALIEN. THE SECOND YOU LOSE CONTROL--
YEAH, YEAH. YOU HIT YOUR HIDDEN "KILL SWITCH", FRY IT, AND LEAVE ME HANGING. GOT IT. SO...
...I'M INSIDE WITHOUT GOING THROUGH THEIR SECURITY. WHAT'S NEXT?
WE MINGLE, "MR. HEISMAN." THE PARTY'S AROUND THE CORNER...
IT'S A SECRET SUMMIT OF THE BIGGEST FINANCIAL LINCHPINS IN OUR GLOBAL ECONOMY. AND...
AND?
HANGERS ON LIKE THE COUNTESS BIANCA DEMONICO.
INTELLIGENCE BELIEVES SHE'S PART OF THE TERRORIST GROUP ULTIMATUM, HERE TO GATHER INTEL.
IF YOU CAN TAG HER, WE CAN TRACK HER BACK TO HER BASE AND HER LEADER, FLAG SMASHER.
AH! MR. HEISMAN, INFAMOUS AMERICAN FINANCIER.
MUCH HAVE I DESIRED TO MEET WITH YOU.
HEY THERE, MISTER...
YUSEF KASSIM. BANKER TO THE MIDDLE EAST'S LARGEST OIL COMPANY.

KASSIM! HEARD A LOT ABOUT YA, MAN.
HA! WISH I COULD SAY THE SAME. I HEAR FROM CERTAIN CIRCLES...
...THAT YOU APPEARED OVERNIGHT WITH MANY LUCRATIVE GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.
INCOMING.
YUSEF, WHO IS YOUR FRIEND? YOU MUST INTRODUCE ME.
MR. GENE HEISMAN, COUNTESS. A YANKEE BUSINESSMAN. NEW MONEY.
HM. TELL ME MORE, MR. HEISMAN.
COUNTESS...
...WITH A KNOCKOUT LIKE YOU, I TALK WITH MY FEET.
I CAN ALSO GO SLOW, SLOW, SLOW, QUICK, QUICK.
WELL YOU CERTAINLY MOVE FAST.
ADMINISTERING LOCALIZED ANESTHETIC.
MMM. GENE, YOU DEFINITELY KNOW YOUR WALTZ FROM YOUR CHA CHA..
INSERTING TRACKING CHIP.
OH I GOT ALL KINDS A' MOVES.
"WHAT'D I TELL YOU? HIS FIRST MISSION WAS A COMPLETE SUCCESS..."

...SATISFIED?
WITH THE RESULTS. BUT HOW WAS HE IN THE FIELD?
I WAS THERE, SIR. THOMPSON WAS...
...ADEQUATE.
UH, GENERAL DODGE? DOES YOUR DOG *HAVE* TO BE HERE? KEEPS LOOKIN' AT ME FUNNY.
DON'T KNOCK HIM, FLASH...
Washington, D.C.
PROJECT: REBIRTH HQ.
...SAMSON'S A SMART PUP.
GRR
HE KNOWS YOU'RE NEAR YOUR 48-HOUR WINDOW.
WE GOTTA GET THE SYMBIOTE OFF YOU NOW!
AUTHORIZATION: DR. AARON MACKENZIE...
"...INITIATING *SONIC PURGE!*"
ARRHH!
RRRWOO
ZEES
100% OF THE SYMBIOTE IS IN THE TUBE. NO BONDING HAS OCCURRED.
YOU'RE CLEAN, FLASH. AND GOOD FOR 19 MORE MISSIONS."
SEE? IT'S ME, BOY. JUST THE FLASH-MAN.
EVERYTHING'S BACK TO NORMAL.


WONDER WHEN'S MY NEXT ASSIGNMENT? C'MON.
HMM...I CAN'T GET THAT SONG OUT OF MY HEAD...
♫ "WHEN MARIMBAS START TO PLAY, DANCE WITH ME, MAKE ME SWAY..." ♫
Brooklyn.
FLASH? +SNIFF+ YOU HOME?
BETTY!
GOD, I'M SUCH A JERKWAD. DAYDREAMING ABOUT DANCING WITH SOME OTHER WOMAN...
...WHEN BETTY, MY GIRL, IS... CRYING?
BETTS? WHAT'S THE MATTER?
IT'S MARLA. JONAH'S WIFE. SHE JUST-- SHE DIED, FLASH.
THE JAMESONS ARE LIKE FAMILY TO ME AND NOW-- NOW--
HOLD ON, BETTS. I'M--
WAKK
UNFF
FLASH!
IT'S ALL RIGHT. SOMETIMES I... FORGET MY LEGS AREN'T THERE ANYMORE.
HONEY...
WHATEVER. LOOK, THIS'S ABOUT YOU. Y'KNOW I'M HERE FOR YOU. ANYTHING YOU NEED.
ACTUALLY, THERE IS SOMETHING. IT'S PETER.
FOR SOME REASON, HE'S TAKING THIS NEWS WORSE THAN ANYONE. HE'S TOTALLY SHUT DOWN. HE WON'T--
YOU'RE ONE OF HIS BEST FRIENDS. MAYBE HE'D OPEN UP TO YOU?
SURE, BETTS. I'M ALL OVER IT.


Tribeca.
MR. PARKER? YOU JUST MISSED HIM. LEFT WITH HIS LADYFRIEND ABOUT TEN MINUTES AGO.
ANY IDEA WHERE THEY WENT? S'KINDA IMPORTANT.
1970 N. MOORE STREET
THINK THEY SAID THEY WERE GOING TO THE COFFEE BEAN.
MAYBE I'M JUMPING THE GUN HERE.
IT SOUNDS LIKE PETE'S GIRL, CARLIE COOPER, IS ALREADY ON THE CASE.
FOR A SEC I FORGOT MY PAL'S *FINALLY* GOT HIS ACT TOGETHER...
Amy's Br
250
...A STEADY JOB, A RELIABLE GAL, AND ALL HIS DUCKS IN A ROW.
Y'KNOW, I GOTTA ADMIT IT, I'M *PROUD* OF OL' "*PUNY PARKER.*" FOR *ONCE* IN HIS LIFE, HE'S NOT SCREWIN' EVERYTHING...
...UP?
YOU CAN'T BEAT YOURSELF UP OVER THIS, PETEY.
REALLY, MJ? YOU'RE THE *ONLY* ONE WHO KNOWS WHO I *REALLY* AM.
THE ONLY PERSON WHO *CAN* UNDERSTAND *HOW* I LET MARLA DOWN. WHY IT'S *MY* FAULT SHE'S DEAD NOW.
MJ? THIS IS GOING DOWN...
...AND YOU'RE OPENING UP TO YOUR *EX?*


WHAT THE HELL'S THE MATTER WITH YOU, PARKER?! IF CARLIE FINDS OUT ABOUT THIS--
BZTTBZTT
I GOTTA DO SOMETHING. STRAIGHTEN 'IM OUT! TELL 'IM TO GET HIS HEAD IN THE--
BZTTBZTT
DANG IT! MY PHONE...
BZTTBZTT
U.S. ARMY
THOMPSON?! WHY WEREN'T YOU PICKING UP?!
Dodge
SORRY, GENERAL. HAD TO GET TO A MORE SECURE LOCATION. WHAT'S THE SITCH?
NOT GOOD. OUT OF EVERYONE AT THAT SECRET ECONOMIC SUMMIT...
...ULTIMATUM TARGETED KASSIM.
THEY SLAUGHTERED HIS BODYGUARDS AND SUCCESSFULLY EXTRACTED HIM OUT OF THE COUNTRY.
ON THE PLUS SIDE, DEMONICO WAS SPOTTED AMONG HIS ABDUCTORS.
THANKS TO THE TRACKING CHIP, WE KNOW THEY'RE IN UZBEKISTAN. YOU HAVE TO COME IN.
NOW? BUT--
WE NEED VENOM, CORPORAL. WE HAVE A BASIC FIX. BUT WITH THE TRACES OF SYMBIOTE IN THAT CHIP, YOU'LL BE ABLE TO PINPOINT IT.
I... UNDERSTAND, GENERAL DODGE. COUNTRY FIRST.
I'M ON MY WAY.

The F-119 Sky Spider
COVERTLY IN TURKISH AIRSPACE.
GONNA MAKE THIS DIRT SIMPLE, CORPORAL. YOU HAVE FOUR OBJECTIVES.
LOCATE KASSIM. GET HIM OUT ALIVE. MEET US TEN CLICKS NORTH OF ULTIMATUM'S COMPOUND...
...AND GET THAT SUIT OFF. MACKENZIE'S ALREADY ON THE GROUND BUILDING A MOBILE SYMBIOTE CONTAINMENT UNIT.
GOT IT. WORST COMES, YOU CAN ALWAYS THROW ME AN AUDIBLE.
NOT THIS TIME, THOMPSON. STEALTH SHIELDING ON THIS BABY'LL PLAY HELL WITH OUR COMMUNICATOR. YOU MIGHT BE ON YOUR OWN.
LET ME GET THIS STRAIGHT... MY SECOND TIME IN THE FIELD. ONE TIME I'D ACTUALLY LIKE BIG SISTER CHECKING IN...
...AND YOU CHOOSE NOW TO SHUT UP ON ME? GREAT.
GERONIMO.

FLASH, DO YOU--SZZT--ETTING INTERFERENCE-- SZZT--IKE WHAT WE-- SZZT--AFRAID OF--

KATE? YOU'RE BREAKING UP.

DEFINI-- TZZZ--FROM THE STEALTH SHIELD!-- TZZZ--AN'T MAKE OUT WHAT YOU'RE-- TZZZ

NOT THRILLED ABOUT THIS. SURE, I *LIKE* BEING THE M.V.P...

...BUT I'VE ALWAYS BEEN A *TEAM* PLAYER.

WHETHER YOU'RE TALKING MIDTOWN HIGH'S FIRST STRING...

...OR THE BEST DAMN UNIT IN IRAQ.

THEN AGAIN, SOMETIMES IT'S JUST YOU, THE BALL...

...AND WHATEVER IT TAKES TO REACH THE END ZONE.

PAFF

KTIK

CHUK

SENTRY ALPHA? BRAVO? SOUND OFF.

WHY IS *NO ONE* AT THIS POST?

SOMEONE'S GOING TO ANSWER FOR THIS.

YOU'RE LEAVING AN ENTRANCE POINT COMPLETELY UNGUAR--

--EKK...

Yusef Kassim's Holding Cell.
YOUR FAMILY'S BANK CODES. OUT WITH IT, KASSIM! ONCE THEY ARE MINE...
...I WILL BANKRUPT YOUR MONARCHY, TOPPLE THEIR OLIGARCHY...
WELL?!
...AND BEGIN A CASCADE EFFECT THAT WILL CRIPPLE THE GLOBAL ECONOMY!
MY APOLOGIES. I COULD NOT TELL WHEN YOU WOULD STOP TALKING.
FINE. I'LL GO BACK TO LETTING MY MACE SPEAK FOR ME. HOLD HIM.
FLAG SMASHER!
I SAID I WAS NOT TO BE DISTURBED.
BUT BOSS, WE THINK THERE'S AN INTRUDER IN THE BASE.
WHAT?!
FOUR SENTRIES HAVE FAILED TO REPORT IN.
SOUND THE GENERAL CALL TO ARMS. I'LL SEE TO THIS MYSELF.
YES, SIR.
HEY, BEFORE I FORGET... THANKS.
THANKS? FOR WHAT?
FOR BEING HERE.

MADE MY JOB SO MUCH EASIER. OH...
...AND ONE MORE THING.
THANKS FOR THE DANCE!
KRAK
WHAT? WHAT IS THIS? WHO ARE YOU?
THOK
I'M LUKE SKYWALKER. I'M HERE TO RESCUE YOU.
SNIP
SORRY. WANTED TO SAY THAT SINCE I WAS SIX.
YUSEF KASSIM, I'M WITH U.S. ARMED FORCES. AND I'M GETTING YOU OUTTA HERE.
TZEE TZEE TZEE
PRAISE BE!

THE INTRUDER!
HE'S GOT THE PRISONER!
OPEN FIRE!
SON OF A--
WHAT'S GOING ON?!
IZEE-TZEE
PAK
PCHOW
PKOW
BRATTA ATTA BRTT
ALARM SYSTEM BUILT INTO YOUR MANACLES, WENT OFF WHEN WE LEFT THE ROOM!
STAY BEHIND ME!
PAKK
POK
OUT OF THE WAY! HE'S GOT SOME FORM OF ADVANCED BODY ARMOR!
THIS SHOULD DEAL WITH IT.
ARRH!!
BOOM!!

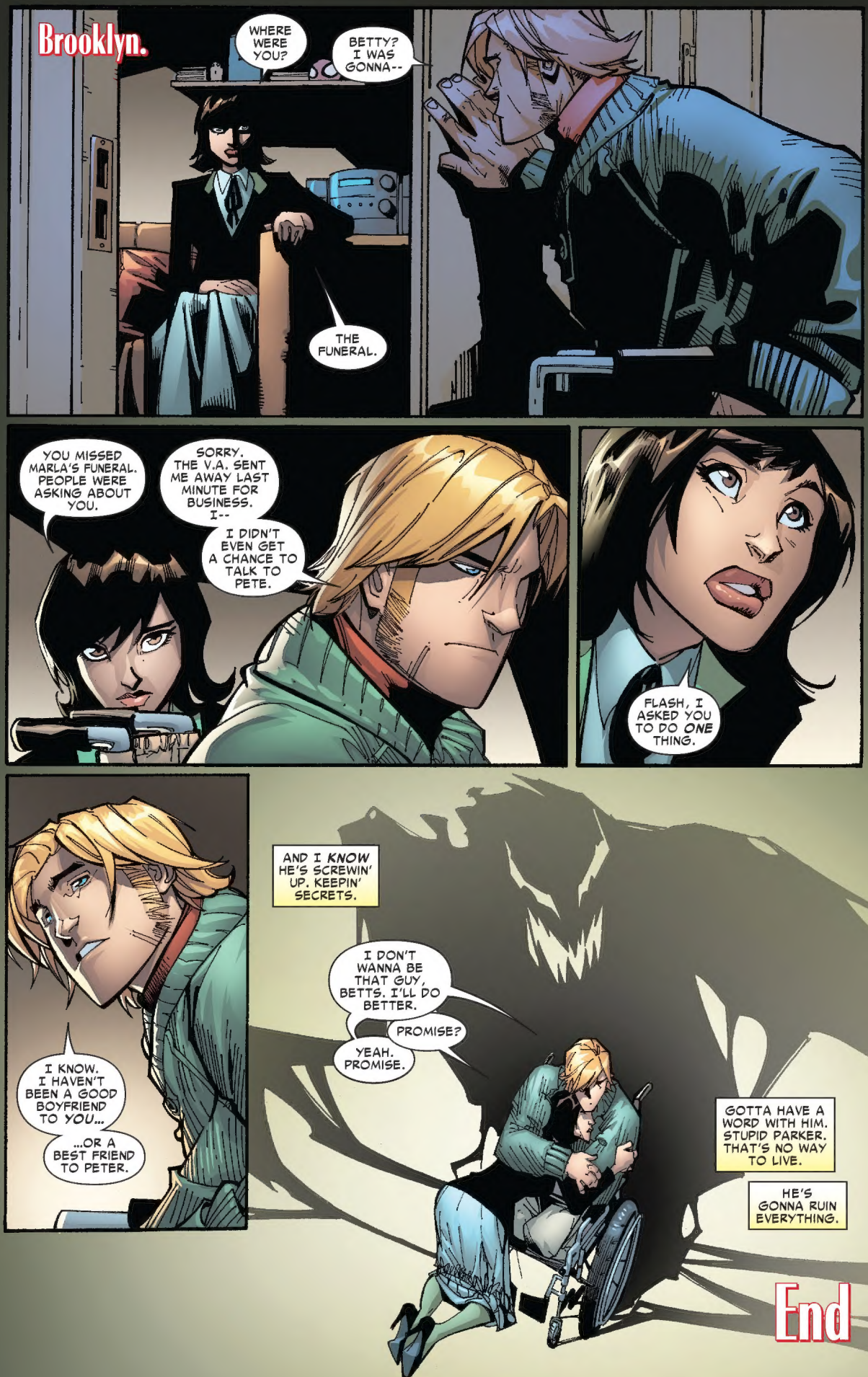
MY LEGS-- THEY BLEW OFF MY--
NOOO!
NOW YA DONE IT! NOW I'M GONNA--
NOW WE'RE GONNA TEAR YA LIMB FROM LIMB!

ERKK
ARHH
GYEAH
PUNY WIMP555! PUT UP A FIGHT!
WHAT ARE YA? GUTLESS5?!
SSSHH
SHRAK
RTCHH
ZAK-KKK
WHOOPS! WE GUESS YOU ARE--NOW!
MERCIFUL ALLAH. THE MAN IS INSANE.
ENOUGH! WHATEVER YOU ARE, YOU'RE OBVIOUSLY HERE FOR SHEIKH KASSIM. SO KNOW THIS--
--ONE PUSH OF THIS BUTTON, I DETONATE HIS RESTRAINTS...
AND THE ONLY WAY YOU'LL LEAVE WITH HIM--IS IN PIECES. DO YOU UNDERSTAND?
SSSSORRY. WE'RE JUST A BIG, DUMB JOCK.
GIVE USSS A SSSEC TO WRAP OUR HEAD AROUND IT.

YEARGHH!
YOU-- YOU'RE A MONSTER.
A CANNIBAL!
PTUH!
EHH--
WHAT? DOESN'T COUNT.
WE DIDN'T SssWALLOW.

Shortly...
TEN CLICKS NORTH OF THE ULTIMATUM BASE.
ALL RIGHT, WE'RE ALL HERE. I CALL SHOTGUN.
NICELY DONE, CORPORAL.
HEY, THIS'S THE FLASH-MAN YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT. MACKENZIE, WHERE'S THE CONTAINMENT POD?
WHAT?!
SORRY, MAN. MOBILE UNIT'S A BUST. COULDN'T GET IT RUNNING. YOU'LL HAVE TO HOLD IT TILL WE'RE BACK IN D.C.
HERE. AT LEAST I CAN GET THESE OFF. CAREFUL, LOOKS LIKE THERE'S AN EXPLOSIVE CHARGE.
THANK YOU.
KATE, WHAT ABOUT THE KILL SWITCH?
I'D... RATHER NOT.
I WASN'T ABLE TO MONITOR YOU EITHER--SAY, DID YOU HAVE AN EPISODE BACK THERE? DID YOU VENOM-OUT?!
KASSIM, YOU WERE THERE. DID YOU SEE ANYTHING?
I SAW--
--NOTHING LESS THAN A TRUE HERO. I OWE YOU MY LIFE, MY FRIEND.
YOU HEARD THE MAN. LET'S GO.

GENERAL, I CAN ONLY CONFIRM THAT 99% OF THE SYMBIOTE IS IN THAT TUBE.
I DON'T KNOW THE WHOLE STORY, SIR. THERE'S A GOOD HOUR WHERE I HAVE NO READINGS AT ALL ON THE ALIEN.
AND KASSIM MAY BE TALKING, BUT I CAN HEAR THAT HE'S NOT TELLING THE TRUTH.
BRING IN THOMPSON.
GRRR
Project: Rebirth HQ.
GOOD WORK, SOLDIER.
THANK YOU, GENERAL.
SO? 18 MISSIONS LEFT ON YOUR TOUR AS VENOM. HONESTLY NOW, SON. YOU STILL UP FOR IT?
SEE YOU AROUND, PARTNER.
YES, SIR. I'M IN.
FOR THE LONG HAUL.
I'LL BE HERE, THOMPSON.
ACTUALLY, KATE, I DON'T THINK HE WAS TALKING TO YOU.


Brooklyn.
WHERE WERE YOU?
BETTY? I WAS GONNA--
THE FUNERAL.
YOU MISSED MARLA'S FUNERAL. PEOPLE WERE ASKING ABOUT YOU.
SORRY. THE V.A. SENT ME AWAY LAST MINUTE FOR BUSINESS. I--
I DIDN'T EVEN GET A CHANCE TO TALK TO PETE.
FLASH, I ASKED YOU TO DO ONE THING.
I KNOW. I HAVEN'T BEEN A GOOD BOYFRIEND TO YOU...
...OR A BEST FRIEND TO PETER.
AND I KNOW HE'S SCREWIN' UP. KEEPIN' SECRETS.
I DON'T WANNA BE THAT GUY, BETTS. I'LL DO BETTER.
PROMISE?
YEAH. PROMISE.
GOTTA HAVE A WORD WITH HIM. STUPID PARKER. THAT'S NO WAY TO LIVE.
HE'S GONNA RUIN EVERYTHING.
End

COMING UP IN AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
HI. I'M PETER PARKER, A FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD KINDA GUY...
...WHOSE NEIGHBORHOOD HAPPENS TO INCLUDE AVENGERS MANSION, THE BAXTER BUILDING...
...GANGLAND TERRITORY...
...AND OUTER SPACE?! WAIT. THAT CAN'T BE RIGHT.
WISH I STILL HAD MY SPIDER-SENSE. 'CAUSE, IS IT ME, OR DOES IT FEEL LIKE...

...THINGS ARE GETTING WEIRD AROUND HERE?
NO WAY!
PETER? WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?!
SCRATCH THAT. THEY'RE DOWNRIGHT FREAKY!
GUESS WHAT, PUMPKIN? YOU WIN.
WHA?! ALL THIS TIME, YOU'VE BEEN IN THE LAB NEXT TO ME? YOU?!
IT ALL STARTED OUT SO GREAT...
...SO HOW ON EARTH DID THIS YEAR TURN INTO SOMETHING SO...
...SINISTER?!
FROM BIG TIME TO THE END TIMES...
AMAZING SPIDER-MAN! TWICE A MONTH, TWICE THE THRILLS!

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

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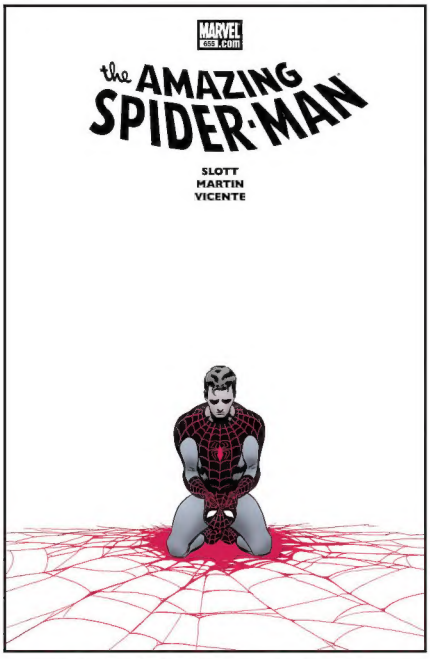

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #655

In the wake of Marla Jameson's death, Peter Parker knows that things can't go on this way. They have to change. He has great power. He has great responsibility. He needs something more...

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #656

With his spider-sense gone and too much blood on his hands, how can Spider-Man hope to stop his newest—and most amoral enemy, the gun-toting sociopath called Massacre?

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #657

Thanks to the Fantastic Four, Spider-Man is reminded that even in the face of death, we celebrate life. Join Pete, Reed, Sue, and Ben as they share their favorite untold tales of Spidey & the Human Torch.

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #658

Spider-Man joins the [Classified], in order to save [Classified] from the terrible threat of [Classified], including taking a [Classified Classified] to [Classified], where you'll never suspect – well... just read it.